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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Moroni, A. Examiner: Pellegrino, Brian E.  
Application No.: 09/577,790 Group Art Unit: 3738  
Filed: May 24, 2000 Docket: 498-206  
Confirmation No.: 4530 Dated: December 18, 2002  
For: IMPLANTABLE PROSTHESES  
WITH IMPROVED  
MECHANICAL AND CHEMICAL  
PROPERTIES

I hereby certify this correspondence is being  
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Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231,  
on December 18, 2002

Signature: Barbara Kemmler

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231-0001

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**  
**PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.116**

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated August 1, 2002, the due date for response being November 1, 2002. A Petition for a Two-Month Extension of Time, along with a check in the amount of \$400.00 accompanies this Response. In view of the following amendments and remarks, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

**RECEIVED**

**DEC 30 2002**

**TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700**

NOT ENTERED  
RP 1/3/02